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Letter dated 23 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing in regard to a letter sent to the Security Council on 11 October 2013 (A/68/534-S/2013/604). In this letter, the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations falsely accused Israel of violating the Blue Line and Lebanon's territorial waters.

In the last two months, violations of the Blue Line from the Lebanese side have increased significantly in the area of Mount Dov. Instead of standing watch, the Lebanese Armed Forces are standing by and permitting violations. In September 2013, the Blue Line was violated on 49 separate occasions by Hezbollah and other armed persons claiming to be hunters. As a result of the repeated violations of Israeli sovereignty, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have increased their operations in the area.

With respect to the shepherd referenced in the letter, this individual has repeatedly been caught crossing the Blue Line into Israel, most recently in July 2013. Finally, regarding allegations surrounding Lebanese territorial waters, IDF was engaged in routine maintenance work that is necessary to ensure the upkeep of the buoy line. Instead of floating lies and drowning the Security Council in letters, Lebanon should be raising minor complaints in the trilateral forum. Israel regards this as the most effective forum in which to address routine incidents.

I should be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated to the members of the Security Council as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-52807 (E) 241013

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